

Youth Resource Connections

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Headlines

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Announces Awards for Mentoring Program. HHS has awarded over \$3 million to six Florida organizations to help mentor children of prisoners. The grantees include Anchorage Childrens' Home of Bay County, Children's Home Society of Florida, Christians Reaching Out to Society, Florida Sunrise Big Brothers Big Sisters, Hands on Broward, and South East Dade Ministerial Alliance. Approximately 6,000 youth have been mentored as a result of the initiative. For more information visit: http://www.acf.dhhs.gov/opa/spotlight/mentor_children.html.

Municipal Officials Celebrate Lights On Afterschool Programs. On October 14, more than 6,000 communities participated in the fifth annual Lights On Afterschool. In many cities and towns mayors, council members and other local elected officials participated in this growing movement of celebrating a day devoted to after school programming across the country. Events ranged from afterschool showcases to community meetings, breakfast with the business community, rallies and opening of afterschool centers. Events were held in Pasadena, CA; Brockton, MA; Berkely, CA; and Fort Worth, TX and other localities across the nation. For more information visit: http://www.nlc.org/nlc_org/site/sitesearch.cfm.

Funding Opportunities

Iowa Afterschool Alliance Funds Grants. The Iowa Afterschool Alliance is offering mini-grants to help support local level community forums across the state. The purpose of these grants is to promote the importance of afterschool efforts through community partnerships. To obtain an application visit: <http://www.icyd.org/new.asp>. For additional information contact: Cindy Maulsby at (515) 727-4220. **Deadline: December 13.**

Home Depot Foundation Funds Grants. Home Depot Foundation will make grants available for projects that create or rehabilitate affordable housing, serve at-risk youth, protect the environment and natural resources and prepare for and respond to disasters. Grants range from \$5,000 to \$25,000. For additional information visit: <http://www.homedepotfoundation.org>. **Deadline: January 15, 2005.**

Target Stores and Tiger Woods Foundation Offers Scholarships. Target Stores and the Tiger Woods foundation have restructured the Start Something, a program that helps young people pursue their dreams and goals, encourage youth leadership, and promote community stewardship. Youth between the ages of 8 and 17 are eligible to apply. Scholarships range from \$100 to \$5,000. For more information visit: http://startsomething.target.com/index_flash.asp. **Deadline: January 1, 2005.**

Opportunities for Youth, Young Adults, and Teachers

The Foundation for Exceptional Children Announces the Yes I Can! International Awards Program. The Foundation for Exceptional Children developed this awards program to acknowledge the achievements of children and youth with disabilities. Three Yes I Can International Awards Nominees will be recognized in nine categories: academics, arts, athletics, community service, employment, extracurricular activities, independent living skills, self-advocacy, and technology. Individuals nominated for the awards program will receive a certificate of achievement. Twenty-seven award winners will receive a bronze statue and other recognition at the CEC Annual Convention scheduled for April 2005 in Baltimore, Maryland. For more information visit: <http://yesican.cec.sped.org/awards/index.html> **Deadline: December 20.**

NASA Student Involvement Program. The NASA Student Involvement Program is a national program of six competitions linking students in grades K-12 directly with NASA's diverse and exciting mission of exploration. For more information on this year's competition, entry checklists, application forms, and details of events visit: <http://www.nsip.net/competitions/>. **Entry deadline: January 15, 2005.**

The FEDCO Charitable Foundation is Accepting Applications for Classroom Enrichment Grants. FEDCO is providing grants to support hand-on classroom or real world field trip projects that bring learning to life and increase student academic achievement. Proposed projects must be submitted by a full-time teacher and may involve museum or fieldtrips, environmental or science projects, artistic or cultural experiences, civics or community-service projects. Teachers may apply individually for a grant of up to \$500 or submit a joint application with other teachers in their school for a total of no more than \$500 per teacher. To be eligible teachers must currently teach full-time in a public school in the Cerritos, Culver City, Norwalk LaMirada, Pasenda, or Los Angeles Unified School District and serve youth in grades K-12. For more information visit: <http://www.calfund.org/6/fedco.php>. **Deadline: February 21, 2005.**

Red Cross September 11 Recovery Grant Offers Funding for Youth Recovery and Resilience. The American Red Cross September 11 Recovery Grants Program has issued a Request for Applications in the area of Youth Recovery and Resilience. Funding is available to support mental health services and resiliency programs for children directly impacted or personally exposed to the events of 9/11; training or support for the caring adults in their lives. Communities that have the highest concentrations of children and youth exposed to and/or directly impacted by the events of 9/11 will be given the highest priority for funding. Applicants must be tax-exempt, non-profit organization as defined under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. Grants range from \$25,000 to \$250,000. For more information visit: the Red Cross Recovery Grants Program Website at: <http://www.recoverygrants.org/>. **Deadline: December 3.**

School and Public Libraries Eligible to Apply for Giant Step Award. The Thomson Gale and School Library Journal have developed the annual Giant Step Award program to recognize outstanding school and public libraries which provide programs that greatly impact student learning and development, both in school and beyond. Eligible applicants must be a U.S. or Canadian school library media center or a youth services department in a U.S. or Canadian public library that partners with local schools. For more information visit: http://www.gale.com/schools/giant_award/about_giant.htm. **Deadline: March 1, 2005.**

Publications

Disabilities Inquiries. This document explains what professionals in the workforce development system can and cannot ask about an individual's disability and what they can do with that information. This document is available through the National Collaborative on Workforce and Disability for Youth. To access the publication visit: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/resources_&Publications/disability_inquiries.html.

Career Planning Begins with Assessment: A Guide for Professionals Serving Youth with Educational and Career Development Challenges. This guide is designed for multiple audiences within the workforce development system. Youth service practitioners will find information on selecting career-related assessments, determining when to refer youth for additional assessment, and additional issues such as accommodations, legal issues, and ethical considerations. Information for administrators the development of practical and effective policies, collaboration among programs, and interagency assessment systems. For more information visit: http://www.ncwd-youth.info/resources_&Publications/assessment.html.

Teens Working: Turning Earning into Learning. This toolkit shows young people the connection between what they do at work and what they learn at school. To obtain a copy of the publication visit: <http://www.nwrel.org/ecc/youthdev/products.html>.

Everyone's Guide to Successful Project Planning: Tools for Youth. This resource helps to guide young people through the many stages of project planning and to tie what young people are learning through projects back to academics. To obtain a copy of the publication visit: <http://www.nwrel.org/ecc/youthdev/products.html>.

Finance Project Guidebook lists grant opportunities by eligible applicant and appropriation history. To access the publication visit: <http://www.financeprojectinfo.org/Publications/JCYOI%20Funding%20Guide.pdf>.

Websites

SERVnet.ORG website features activities related to service projects and volunteer opportunities. SERVENet matches organizations with volunteers who have the skills, experiences, locale, and enthusiasm to help them. Organizations and corporations can add SERVENet's Get Involved! Box to their website, providing visitors easy access to volunteer opportunities near them. For more information visit: <http://www.servenet.org/>.

Afterschool.gov website offers one-stop access to government resources that support after school programs. The site is designed for anyone who cares about kids 6-18 -- providers, parents, and kids and teens. For more information visit: <http://www.afterschool.gov>.

Adolescence Directory On-Line (ADOL) is an electronic guide to information on adolescent issues. It is a service of the Center for Adolescent Studies at Indiana University. Educators, counselors, parents, researchers, health practitioners, and teens can use ADOL to find Web resources for numerous topics. For more information visit: <http://education.indiana.edu/cas/adol/adol.html>.

Center for Parent and Youth Understanding website provides resources and analysis on youth culture. To access the website, visit: <http://www.cpyu.org>.

The Children, Youth and Family Consortium website maintained by the University of Minnesota, offers a wide range of information and resources about children and families. To access the website: <http://www.cyfc.umn.edu>.

National Youth Leadership Council works to advance service leadership in P-16 and community- based organizations, to access the website visit: <http://nylc.org>.

Calendar of Events

December 2-6. National Inclusive School Week. For more information visit: <http://www.inclusiveschools.org/events.htm>.

December 8-10. Bethesda, MD. The 2004 Perspectives on Employment of Persons with Disabilities Conference. For more information visit: <http://register.grad.usda.gov/Conferences/Perspectives2003/DisabilitiesInfo.cfm>.

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January 8-11. Washington, DC. National Association of Drug Court Professionals. Fourth Annual Juvenile and Family Drug Court Training Conference. Contact: (703) 575-9522 or visit: <http://www.nadcp.org>.

January 23. Lansing, MI. Open Minds. Putting Cutting Edge Technologies to Use in Your Organization. Contact: (717) 334-1329 or visit: <http://www.openminds.com/>.

January 24. Tyngsboro, MA. Community Program Innovations. Working With Children and Adolescents: Nurturing Resilience and Managing Resistance. Contact: (617) 547-5577 or visit: <http://www.communityprograminnovations.com/>.

January 25. National Mentoring Month. Visit: <http://www.whomentoredyou.org>.

January 27-28. Lexington, KY. National Youth Court Center. Case Management Software for Youth Courts. Contact: (859) 244-8193 or visit: <http://www.youthcourt.net/>.

January 27-29. San Francisco, CA. Annual Technology, Reading and Learning Difficulties Conference. For more information visit: <http://www.trld.com/index.htm>.

February 11-13. Des Moines, IA. 2005 Leadership Experience and Development Conference. For more information visit: <http://www.nasc.us/confprog/lead.cfm>.

Youth Resource Connections. The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non endorsed DOL/ETA resources.

We welcome your input. Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments contact the: Office of Youth Services at (202) 693-3037 or e-mail youth.services@dol.gov .

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